

East Oregonian

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And the soil is teeming o'er all the earth.
 And the earth has numberless lands;
 Yet millions of hands want acres
 While millions of acres want hands.
 Who hath ordained that a parchment scroll
 Shall fence round miles of lands,
 When millions of hands want acres,
 And millions of acres want hands?
 —Emil Duganne.

It is estimated that the government in searching for reservoir sites on the Butter creek irrigation project, has spent almost enough money to build a canal from Barnhart to Butter creek, covering the larger part of the government reservation. Were such a canal now open, to receive the flood waters of the Umatilla that will flow to waste this winter, nearly 100,000 acres of arid land would be converted into an alfalfa field within the next six months. The unanswerable results of such flooding in Umatilla county prove this. Under the present plans of the government, this reclamation must be delayed indefinitely, if it ever comes.

Shame on Boise! Because Oregon makes an honest effort to bring all the conventions possible to Portland during the Lewis and Clark fair, in 1905, the fair capital of Idaho accuses this state of unfairness, selfishness, "hogishness." If Idaho were promoting an event as far reaching for the good of the entire northwest as the Lewis and Clark fair is certain to be, would Oregon, her nearest neighbor and her best friend, lay a straw in her path? Would Portland deny her anything within her power to grant? Oregon took her medicine like a good girl when Idaho's vote in the National Livestock Congress several years ago, tore the succeeding meeting from Portland's grasp. Oregon loves you yet!

Senator Fulton and Congressman Williamson have both dodged in and out of Pendleton without giving heed to the repeated requests of citizens for conference here on public questions. Senator Mitchell sent word that if any one in Umatilla county wished to see him before his departure for Washington, they would find him at his Portland office. This is a sample of the interest taken in public questions that concern this section of Oregon, by these gentlemen. The Commercial Association of Pendleton and the Columbia River Basin Irrigation association, two of the representative bodies of business men of this county invited the members of the Oregon delegation in congress to meet the people here in a conference on irrigation, before they left for the east. Instead of granting this simple request, and coming as servants of the people, Senator Mitchell totally ignored the county and Senator Fulton and Congressman Williamson declined to meet the people in a public conference, but found time between trains to consult the party bosses, as they went east. If there was to be a senatorial election at Salem this winter these gentlemen would have fallen over each other in their haste to ascertain Umatilla county's wishes. The people will be compelled to work out their own public questions. The momentous question of political appointment takes up all the time of the members of congress.

C. E. S. Wood is a crank, but he is a thinker and as such commands attention. The Pacific coast does not possess such another daring and fearless mental adventurer—such a chaotic, eruptive volcano in human form as he. His doctrines of anarchy and free love are not intended to make converts, but they are given with an earnestness that is admirable. One

of his policies however, is worthy of the most profound thought. He draws a picture of the present land system which should cause legislators and thinkers of all classes to halt. Here in the midst of the settled districts of Oregon and in every city are vast idle tracts of deeded land, held by private owners. The owners cannot use it. They have more than they can cultivate or employ in any way, and are holding these idle tracts for profit. Adjoining it stand the huts of renters and tenants, at whose hearts the home-bunger, the instinct of home ownership, is gnawing like a cancer. They have no spot of earth to live upon; they are paying the landlord for the privilege of squatting temporarily upon his holdings; their children are growing up without the blessings of a sovereign independence that springs only from ownership of the soil, while high board fences inclose idle tracts owned by people who cannot possibly use them and who will not sell them that others may use them. There is food for thought in this heresy of Wood's. The law of accumulation and ownership that applies to personal property is upset, when applied to the earth which is intended as a dwelling place for man.

Skeptics and scoffers say the church is woman's organization—that the "heaven" business duties claim most of the activities of men. They say business duties prevent men from being active members; it is declared that modern business methods necessitate actions and associations incompatible with strict religious lines of life and that it is impossible to be a successful business man and a consistent church member at the same time. Such bosh is the argument of the moral coward who does not possess the courage to shake off his evil associations. It is the apology of the weakling who hangs on to this flimsy excuse as an answer to the shrill voice of his inner self. The church lays down no rules of life which are out of harmony with honest business conduct; it lays no barrier in the way of refined social aspiration; it is an incentive to a higher thought and nobler purpose than can be actuated by any secular or material ideal, because it deals with the spiritual, that mystic, enchanting subject which has been the theme and dream of the thinker in every age. From a practical standpoint it appeals to the business man of sense and refinement, because it is an organized and directed force; business men believe in organization, co-operation, unity and as the forces of evil and immorality are organized, they must admit the logic of the organization for good. And when a test is made and the practical, hard-headed business man is forced to ally himself with one side or the other, where will he be found? There are only two classes. Which does he select? The answer is already given.

A New Chamber of Commerce banquet was recently attended by 409 men representing \$2,000,000,000.



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THE DAYS GONE BY.

Oh, the days gone by! Oh, the days gone by!
 The apples in the orchard, and the pathway through the rye;
 The chirrup of the robin, and the whistle of the quail
 As he piped across the meadows as sweet as any nightingale;
 When the bloom was on the clover, and the blue was in the sky,
 And my happy heart brimmed over in the days gone by.

In the days gone by, when my naked feet were tripped
 By the honeysuckle tangles where the water lilies dripped,
 And the ripples of the river lipped the moss along the brink
 When the placid-eyed and lazy-footed cattle came to drink,
 And the titling snipe stood fearless of the truant's wayward cry
 And the splashing of the swimmer in the days gone by.

Oh, the days gone by! Oh, the days gone by!
 The music of the laughing lip, the luster of the eye;
 The childish faint in fairies, and Aladdin's magic ring—
 The simple, soul-reposing glad belief in everything—
 When life was like a story, holding neither sob nor sigh,
 In the golden olden glory of the days gone by.

—James Whitcomb Riley.

TORMENTING RHEUMATISM

Columbus, Ohio, May 20, 1903.
 Six years ago I had a severe attack of Inflammatory Rheumatism. I was laid up in bed for six months, and the doctors I had did me no good. They changed medicines every week and nothing they prescribed seemed to help me. Finally I began the use of S. S. S. My knee and elbow joints were swollen terribly, and at one time my joints were so swollen and painful that I could not close them when opened. I was so bad that I could not move knee or foot. I was getting discouraged, you may be sure, when I began S. S. S., but as I saw it was helping me I continued it, and to-day I am a sound well man and have never had a return of the disease. S. S. S. purified my blood and cured me of this severe case of Rheumatism after everything else had failed. I have recommended it to others with good results.
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